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Date of Signature and Deposit: 1/7/04

Francis Baber
Attorney of Record

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Michel G. Bergeron, et al.
Serial No.: 09/989,643
Filed: November 20, 2001
For: SPECIES-SPECIFIC, GENUS-SPECIFIC AND UNIVERSAL
DNA PROBES AND AMPLIFICATION PRIMERS TO
RAPIDLY DETECT AND IDENTIFY COMMON
BACTERIAL AND FUNGAL PATHOGENS AND
ASSOCIATED ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE GENES FROM
CLINICAL SPECIMENS FOR DIAGNOSIS IN
MICROBIOLOGY LABORATORIES
Group Art Unit: 1634
Examiner: F. Lu

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicants respond to the July 8, 2003 Restriction Requirement by filing a continuation application on date even herewith and enclose a five month extension of time so that this continuation will be filed during the pendency of the above-identified application.

Applicants intend to quickly file a Preliminary Amendment to modify the claims of the new continuation application and believe that the above-identified restriction requirement will no longer be applicable.

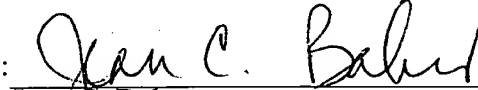
A Petition and Fee for Five Months Extension of Time is enclosed. No other fees are believed necessary to enter this response. However, if any other fees are necessary, please charge Deposit Account 17-0055.

Respectfully submitted,

Michel G. Bergeron, et al.

January 7, 2004

By:



Jean C. Baker

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